

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00 ERDA-05  
COME-00 EB-08 EPA-01 INR-07 IO-13 L-03 NSF-01 NSC-05  
NSAE-00 PM-04 USIA-06 OES-06 SS-15 SP-02 INT-05 FEA-01  
/111 W

-----152157Z 046287 /67

P R 151913Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY NASSAU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9176

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L NASSAU 0360

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SENV, MILL, UK, BW

SUBJ: TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS WATER CRISIS (ANNUAL)

1. EMBASSY NLO RECEIVED CALL ON 14 MARCH FROM MAJOR HUGHES, PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, REPORTING THAT COMMANDER, GRAND TURK AAF HAD BEEN APPROACHED BY TURKS AND CAICOS ISLAND GOVERNMENT FOR ASSISTANCE TO COMBAT THE ANNUAL WATER SHORTAGE.

2. T&C GOVERNMENT PROPOSES TO BUY WATER COMMERCIALY, BUT HAS NO STORAGE CAPACITY. THEY DESIRE TO USE USAF CATCHMENT BASIN AS STORAGE AND WOULD BUILD A PIPELINE FROM USAF PIER TO USAF CATCHMENT AREA. AIR FORCE EVIDENTLY CONCURS AND PROPOSES TO EXECUTE THE NECESSARY AGREEMENT WITH T&C GOVERNMENT.

3. NLO CONTACTED COMMERCIAL OFFICER (MR. PETER NEWMAN) BRITISH HIGH COMMISSION NASSAU, WHO STATED THAT HE WAS PROVIDING TURKS AND CAICOS WITH INFO ON SOURCES FOR WATER BARGING, ETC. MR. NEWMAN SAID THAT CURRENT DATA INDICATED THAT A THREE-WEEK SUPPLY OF WATER REMAINS  
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ON GRAND TURK AND THAT T&C GOVERNMENT HOPES TO BARGE THE FIRST LOAD OF WATER ON 29 MARCH. LOADS ARE TO BE .5 MILLION GALLONS EACH.

4. WHILE EMBASSY WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION TO COMPLYING WITH REQUEST, WE WOULD HOPE THAT AIR FORCE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ENSURE THAT THERE IS NO MIXING OF BASE AND

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES IN ORDER TO AVOID ADVERSE PUBLIC  
REACTION SHOULD T&C GOVERNMENT PLANNING PROVE INADEQUATE.  
OBVIOUSLY, THE POTENTIAL EXISTS FOR THE BASE TO BE  
BLAMED FOR ANY SHORTAGE, SINCE THE USAF WILL HAVE CUSTODY  
OF THE WATER.

5. PLEASE INFORM EMBASSY IF PROPOSAL IS ACCEPTED BY  
USAF.  
OLSON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY BASES, WATER PIPELINES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
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22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009